

# Sustainable water management

The Department of Main Roads has established SAFELink Alliance to deliver the Ipswich Motorway Upgrade from Wacol to Darra. Construction is underway and is due for completion in December 2010.

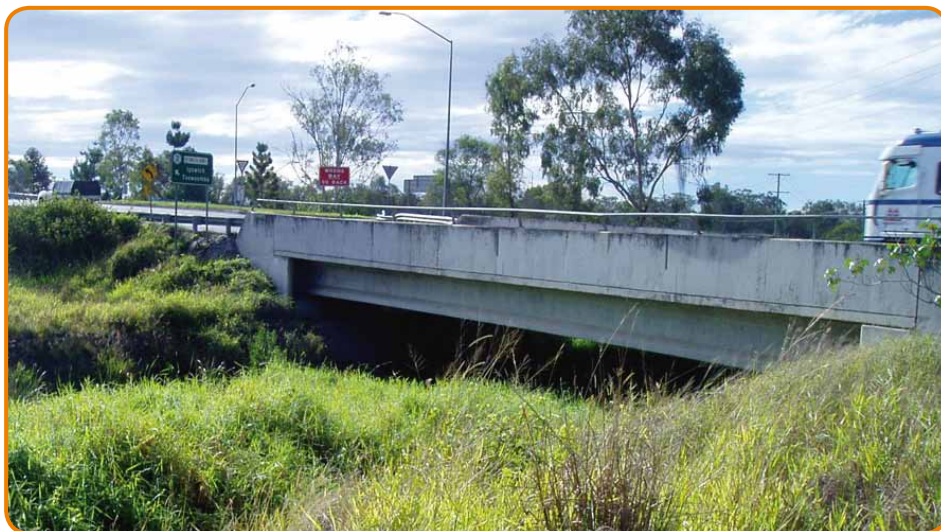
According to the Queensland Water Commission, south east Queensland is in the grip of the worst drought on record, with the level of the region's significant water storages at historic lows.

The region's population is expected to grow by more than one million people over the next twenty years, placing further demands on our water supplies.

Main Roads is committed to managing water sustainably and improving the quality of existing waterways along this stretch of the motorway.

## Environmental assessment

As part of this commitment, an Environmental Assessment Report (EAR) was developed in April 2007, which outlines the environmental and social impacts of the Ipswich Motorway Upgrade from Wacol to Darra.



Sandy Creek (top) and Bullockhead Creek (bottom) intersect the Ipswich Motorway between the Centenary Highway and Progress Road interchange.



# Ipswich Motorway Upgrade Wacol to Darra

## Local waterways

Bullockhead and Sandy Creeks are ecologically significant and are currently monitored for their health by Brisbane City Council.

The creeks flow northward from Greenbank Military Base before connecting near the suburb of Sumner. They then flow downstream into the Brisbane River.

Main Roads aims to minimise impacts to the creeks during construction and to improve water quality by:

- » evaluating the current condition of local waterways
- » monitoring water quality regularly
- » using clean rock materials when water flows need to be temporarily interrupted
- » restoring and regenerating waterways and banks using native vegetation
- » installing drainage structures that filter pollutants from road run-off
- » working with the local community to ensure the preservation of local species for regeneration activities
- » stabilising creek banks to reduce erosion
- » installing erosion, sediment and drainage controls during construction.



Water tanks are used during construction to capture rain water to reuse on site.

## Water management

A Water Efficiency Management Plan has been developed which includes:

- » importing non potable water for use on the construction site
- » using soil binders and dust suppressants to minimise the need for spraying water on unsealed roads and stockpiles

- » installing water efficient devices on site (taps, shower heads and waterless urinals)
- » capturing run-off rain water to reuse on site, for example, toilet flushing in the office.



## Contact us

Community Engagement Team

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### SMS updates\*

[www.westerncorridorsms.qld.gov.au](http://www.westerncorridorsms.qld.gov.au)

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Australian Government



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# Rehabilitation and landscaping

The Department of Main Roads has established SAFELink Alliance to deliver the Ipswich Motorway Upgrade from Wacol to Darra. Construction is underway and is due for completion in December 2010.



Areas identified to be environmentally sensitive will be continually monitored throughout the project.

Rehabilitation and landscaping is a major part of our commitment towards minimising environmental impacts within the project area and creating sustainable environmental outcomes for the community.

## Enhancing the local area

To meet this commitment, we have developed an urban design plan that will enhance the local environment and help create places where people want to live, work and play.

Some urban design strategies include:

- » planting drought tolerant trees and shrubs that are native to the local area
- » collaborating with the local community and environmental groups in projects such as native seed collection and plantings
- » creating attractive visual landscapes that have a distinct local character
- » constructing landscapes that safely connect the local community through paths and other linkages
- » ensuring that landscaped environments are largely self-sustainable.

# Ipswich Motorway Upgrade Wacol to Darra

## Rehabilitation after construction

During construction it is necessary to remove some trees and vegetation.

Reasons for this include:

- » relocation of existing public utility services including gas, electricity, telecommunications, water and sewer pipes
- » providing safe site access to roadwork for construction workers and other field staff
- » removing existing vegetation that poses a potential safety risk to the community
- » to enable the widening of the Wacol to Darra section of the Ipswich Motorway.

We are committed to the restoration of all disturbed areas as a result of the upgrade and to create spaces that can be enjoyed not only now, but for years to come.



## Sensitive environments

Environmentally sensitive areas will be continually monitored throughout the project. These monitoring activities will minimise the environmental impacts of construction and operation of the motorway between Wacol and Darra. These areas include the Sandy Creek and Bullockhead Creek corridors. To alleviate the impact on these areas certain measures are in place.

These measures include:

- » a commitment to conserving sensitive environments where possible
- » restoring and revegetating environmentally sensitive areas using plants native to the local area
- » ongoing monitoring of sensitive sites for environmental health
- » identification and protection of vegetation within the project that is able to be retained.



Planting drought tolerant trees will help to strengthen the local environment.

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# Reduce, reuse and recycle

The Department of Main Roads has established SAFELink Alliance to deliver the Ipswich Motorway Upgrade from Wacol to Darra. Construction is underway and is due for completion in December 2010.

Main Roads is committed to the sustainable management of waste and minimising the environmental impacts of construction and operation of the motorway between Wacol and Darra.

## Waste management

During construction, we will implement innovative waste management strategies to minimise impacts to the local environment through waste reduction, recycling and reusing construction materials.

The first step in managing waste sustainably is to understand the types of waste that will be generated. These include:

- » plant and equipment waste – oils, fuel, grease, chemicals, tyres and batteries
- » organic material - cleared vegetation, timber and soil
- » construction material - asphalt, concrete, scrap steel and aluminium
- » domestic waste - paper, plastic, glass, sewage, cardboard and printer cartridges.

## Reduce

Reduction strategies focus on preventing waste in the first instance by only purchasing what we intend to use.

Efficient procurement strategies prevent stockpiling and disposal of excess resources. We will buy in bulk to minimise packaging and buy quality goods that last longer.



Mulch can be collected during clearing and reused for landscaping.

## Reuse

We are reducing cost and waste by reusing materials on site.

Some reuse strategies include:

- » using pre-existing asphalt for general fill to support new road surfaces
- » reusing mulch that has been cleared for landscaping
- » reusing of formwork for concreting work.

# Ipswich Motorway Upgrade Wacol to Darra

## Recycle

We have developed a range of recycling strategies to minimise waste which include:

- » purchasing products that contain recycled materials, for example, use of recycled concrete for erosion and sediment control
- » separating and recycling construction materials, including metals, wood, concrete, cardboard and plastics
- » sending waste to a bio waste reduction facility that generates green energy, for example, methane gas is captured and reused for energy supply to houses
- » using recycled paper for offices
- » using recycled water for dust control
- » recycling of oil and tyres from equipment
- » recycling office materials such as paper, cardboard and printer/toner cartridges.



Recycled water is used throughout construction.

For more information on effective waste management strategies, visit [www.epa.qld.gov.au/](http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/) and search 'reduce, reuse, recycle'.



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